

Press Release

HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Department of Community Services



PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe
Harford"

EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,
Building for the Future"

EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining
Harford's Prosperity"

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our
Environment"

QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is
Important to Harford
County Citizens"

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Getting There Ride Share *Volunteer-Based Service Providing Area Seniors with Transportation Options*

(Bel Air, MD) - - *"Getting There Ride Share"* (GTRS) is a new senior rideshare program operating out of the Wilson Ministry Center in Darlington that provides low-cost, reliable, supplemental "door-to-door transportation" services for senior citizens age sixty (60) and older who reside in northern Harford County.

The goal of the program is to assist seniors in meeting their transportation needs, which allows them to maintain their independence, freedom, and the ability to age in place with dignity. Trip destinations can be for a variety of purposes, including medical appointments, shopping trips, social occasions or any other activity that enhances and improves the quality of life for those in need of transportation.

In 2008, Harford County Government Department of Community Services developed a planning group comprised of community leaders and began exploring the possibility of providing a volunteer-based senior rideshare service for Harford County residents living in select areas of northern Harford County, including Darlington, Dublin, Pylesville, Street and Whiteford. In 2009 informational meetings began in the community and the *"Getting There Ride Share"* service was born.

GTRS began as a completely volunteer-driven program through the efforts of two active community members, Cathy Beers and Alice Breault. They logged countless hours helping to design and plan the program while providing numerous trips for local seniors. GTRS recently hired a part-time program director, Ms. Susan Kelly, who will coordinate activities to promote and implement these much needed services.

GTRS is seeking people willing to devote two or more hours per month or every other month as volunteer drivers. Ride days and times can be arranged to suit individual schedules. Trip destinations are all located within Harford County and partial mileage reimbursement is available on request.

For more information or to request a volunteer driver application, please call the GTRS Office at 410-836-3005.

- 30 -

"Preserving Harford's past; promoting Harford's future"

